

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 19-29 remain in the application for consideration.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim 1 was objected to because of informalities.

By the instant amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to take into consideration the helpful comments of the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is free from informalities.

Turning now to the art rejections, Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 19-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed '658 in view of Zook; and Claims 3 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed '658 in view of Reed '248.

These rejections are respectively traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Reed '658 does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the step of whitening the recovered data output signal prior to the filtering but within the post-processing method, within a whitening filter in independent Claim 1 and the whitening filter connected to receive the error signal to produce an input signal to the threshold circuit in independent Claim 19.

Reed '658 does not disclose white filtering.

Reed '248 does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the whitening filter connected to receive the error signal to produce an input signal to the threshold circuit as defined in the various forms of independent Claims 1 and 19.

Reed '248 does not disclose a whitening filter.

Zook does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the whitening filter connected to receive the error signal to produce an input signal to the threshold circuit as defined in the various forms in independent Claims 1 and 19.

Zook discloses that the whitening filter is positioned at the output of the analog receive filter 61 and the discrete equalizer filter 74 of Figure 3. These are not within the post-processor 95.

It is respectfully submitted that the presently claimed invention is patentably distinct over the applied references.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated,
Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**In the claims:**

Claims 1 has been amended as follows:

1. A post-processing method for use in a sampled data read channel of a mass data storage device that has a Viterbi detector that receives actual sampled partial response target data from a data medium of said mass data storage device and produces a recovered data output signal, comprising:

filtering a recovered partial response target signal derived from said recovered data output signal and sampled partial response target data to produce a filtered output signal;

providing a threshold circuit to provide a threshold against which said filtered output signal is compared;

generating an error event pattern indicating signal when a predetermined error event pattern occurs in said recovered data output signal;

modifying the recovered data output signal when said filtered output signal exceeds the threshold of said threshold circuit and said error event indicating signal is generated, and

whitening the recovered data output signal, prior to said filtering but within said ~~post~~ post processing method, with a whitening filter.